

NOTES ON NEOTROPICAL TABANIDAE (DIPTERA).
XI. *STENOTABANUS STARYI* N. SP. FROM CUBA*

By G. B. FAIRCHILD

Gorgas Memorial Laboratory, Panamá, R. de P.

In 1923 Brunetti described *Silvius punctipennis* from 3 specimens from Sierra Maestra (Oriente Prov.) Cuba. Bequaert (1940) transferred the species to *Tabanus (Stenotabanus)*, renaming it *brunettii* due to pre-occupancy by *Tabanus punctipennis* Macquart 1838. Bequaert (1940) included specimens from Hispaniola and Puerto Rico, as well as Cuban material in the species, and noted the great variability in size, from 6 to 12 mm. Brunetti gives 7 to 7.5 mm., though Bequaert states that the paratype in Deutsches Entomologisches Institut measured 9.5 mm. He did not study the holotype in the British Museum. Mr. Harold Oldroyd, at my request, very kindly measured the holotype and paratype in B.M. He found the holotype to measure 10 mm. in wing length, 8 mm. in body length; the paratype 8 mm and 8 mm.

Recent extensive series collected in Cuba by P. Stary and kindly sent to me for study by Dr. Milan Chvala, indicate that two very closely similar species appear to be present. The larger of these, with wing lengths from 7.7 to 10.4 mm. (58 specimens measured) is *brunettii* Beq. as shown by measurements of the types. The smaller species, described below, has wing measurements of 5.2 to 6.5 mm. (17 specimens measured), so that there is a gap of over 1 mm. in wing length between the two populations. The means and medians of these measurements for the two species are 5.3 and 5.85 for the small species, 8.2 and 9.0 mm for *brunettii*. These dimensions are correlated with slight differences in color and wing pattern. Both species occur together in many localities, though *brunettii* appears dominant at higher elevations.

The status of the forms found on Hispaniola and Puerto Rico will need long series for clarification. The few specimens available are rather intermediate in size between the two Cuban forms, but slightly different in wing pattern from either and from each other. Whether they are geographical races (subspecies) of one or the other of the Cuban forms, or best separated on a specific level cannot be

*Manuscript received by the editor August 10, 1967

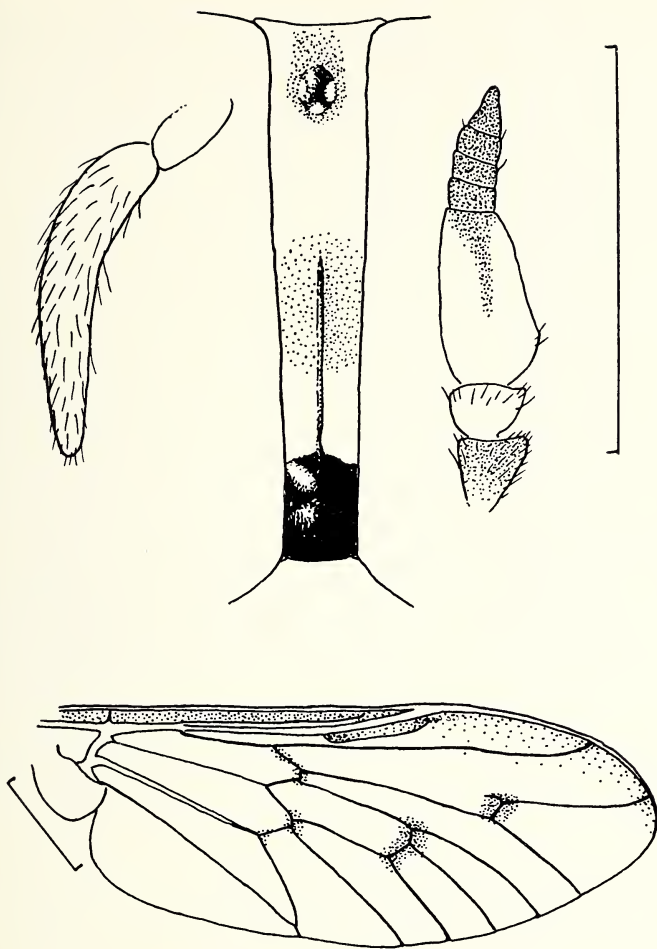


Fig. 1. *Stenotabanus staryi* n. sp., palpus, frons and antenna, holotype. Wing, paratype. The scale lines represent 1 mm.

decided on the basis of the meagre material available to me (2 from Hispaniola, 1 from Puerto Rico).

***Stenotabanus staryi* n. sp.**

Female. Length 6.8 mm., of wing 6.1 mm. Eyes bare, purple with 2 green transverse bands, the upper narrower than the lower. Frons 6.8 times as high as basal width, slightly wider at vertex, as

figured, clothed with steel grey pollinosity which shows a median ill-defined blackish area in middle of frons in certain lights. Tubercle at vertex with clear vestiges of ocelli, surrounded by a semi-bare area thinly clothed with dark pollinosity. Callus and median ridge black, shiny. Subcallus pollinose, slightly yellowish tinged, and at sides somewhat more brownish. Fronto-clypeus and genae steel grey pollinose, the sparse beard whitish. Antennae as figured, the first segment dark brown, thinly pollinose, black-haired; second segment orange, black-haired; third segment reddish orange on basal two-thirds of basal plate, the apex blackish, with an ill-defined blackish streak in middle; style black. Palpi as figured, dull yellowish in ground color, whitish pollinose, and clothed with sparse long brassy hairs basally, shorter black hairs on apical two-thirds. Proboscis slightly longer than palpi, the labella large, soft, pollinose, blackish.

Mesonotum blackish-brown in ground color, grey pruinose anteriorly and with a pair of grey pruinose dorsolateral stripes. Notopleural lobes and area around wing bases slightly paler. Vestiture sparse, of short pale hairs. Scutellum concolorous, its posterior border with paler pruinosity. Pleura paler, brownish, pale pollinose and largely pale-haired. Coxae and femora blackish in ground color, pale pollinose and sparsely pale-haired. Fore tibiae yellowish on basal half, blackish distally, remaining femora yellowish, sparsely pale-haired basally, dark-haired apically. No hind tibial fringe. Fore tarsi black, remainder yellow basally, the terminal segments dusky. Halteres with pale stem, knob largely blackish, except extreme apex paler. Wings as figured, the costal cell dark yellow, clouds brown. Basicosta without macrotrichiae, acutely pointed. Costa without basal groove.

Abdomen blackish-brown in ground color, the posterior borders of all tergites, except seventh, broadly whitish. First and second tergites slightly paler at sides. Pollinosity thin, dark on dark areas, yellowish white on pale hind borders. In addition, sides of first and second tergites, and faint broad median triangles are grey pollinose. Hairs are sparse, but reflect the underlying colors, dark on dark areas, yellowish on pale areas, including the indefinite median triangles. Beneath the abdomen is paler, with less contrast in basal colors, wholly pale pollinose and pale haired.

Holotype ♀ Cuba, Sierra Maestra, Pico Turquino, Oriente, 14-8-1965, P. Stary coll. To be deposited in M.C.Z.

Paratypes, 3 ♀ Sierra Cristal, Cayo Verde, 20-8-1965, P. Stary; 4 ♀, Cupeyal, Oriente, 23-3-1965, P. Stary; 3 ♀ Cupeyal, sev., od

Guantanamo, 22-3-1965, P. Stary; 1 ♀, Sierra Maestra, Oriente, Santa Ana, 28-5-1965, P. Stary; 1 ♀, coast below Pico Turquino, eastern Oriente, July 26-30, 1936, P. J. Darlington; 1 ♀, Yunque de Baracoa, Oriente, July 13, 1936, 1000-1800 ft., Darlington; 2 ♀, Mts. n. of Imias, Eastern Oriente, July 25-28, 1936, 3000-4000 ft., Darlington; 1 ♀, Soledad, Sta. Clara, Cuba, VII-2-1932, Bates and Fairchild. To be deposited in Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, Narodni Museum, Prague, and coll. C. B. Philip.

The Stary specimens are mostly somewhat grease darkened and a number are lacking appendages, apparently taken by hand. The remaining material is generally paler, the abdomens more brownish and thoraxes more clearly striped.

Aside from smaller size, this species differs from *brunettii* in smaller wing spots, less clearly marked median abdominal triangles, stubbier antennae which are generally more extensively yellow or orange, and in proportionally wider pale abdominal bands. The wings are always slightly shorter than body, while in *brunettii* they are always slightly longer than body.

Dr. Stary also collected 88 specimens of *St. brunettii* from Pico Turquino, Santa Ana, Loma de Cordero, Cabezal de Palma M. and Pico de Cuba, all in Oriente Province. I have also seen material from other localities in Oriente Province and from Buenos Aires, Trinidad Mts., Santa Clara in M.C.Z. Those from the latter locality are smaller and paler.

Bequaert's action (1940) in renaming *Silvius punctipennis* Brunetti arose from his belief that *Stenotabanus* was no more than a subgenus of *Tabanus*, so that *punctipennis* Brunetti 1923 became a junior secondary homonym of *Tabanus punctipennis* Macq. 1836, upon transfer by Bequaert to *Tabanus* (*Stenotabanus*). But since this action was taken before 1960, it is my belief that strict application of Article 59c of the International Rules of Zoological Nomenclature requires the retention of *brunettii* Bequaert 1940. This article states that names of this sort published after 1960 are to be changed, and by implication, that those proposed before that date are to stand.

REFERENCES

- BEQUAERT, J.
1940. The Tabanidae of the Antilles. *Rev. Ent.* 11(1-2): 319.
BRUNETTI, E.
1923. Two new species of Tabanidae from Cuba. *Bull. Ent. Res.*, 13: 402.